

New!

# The Black Mirror News

Reflections

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SUMMER ISSUE

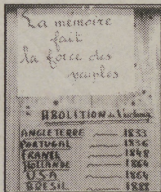
## OLYMPIC REPORT

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recording  
artist  
**Wincey**  
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N. Y. DIVISION  
NEWARK PUBLIC LIBRARY



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## NEW JERSEY EDITION

**BLACK MIRROR NEWS***True stories that aren't in the dailies*

Address all Editorial and  
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**THE BLACK MIRROR NEWS**

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story - true stories that aren't in the dailies.*

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**On Our Cover -**

**Wincey** is a recording artist who began singing at age 13. She has since appeared on several television shows, commercials, videos, magazines and newspaper publications. Maybe you've caught her on Showtime at the Apollo, the Arsenio Hall Show, Cosby's Show, HBO's Comic Relief, the Howard Stern radio show, Late Night w/David Letterman, Soul Train w/Manie Love, or Spike Lee's PBS "Do It Acapella" show, etc. With poise, versatility and style she leaves no doubt that some day she'll be a household name. Remember you heard it here first!

**FALLING LEAVES**

**MRS. EMILY WATERS** of East Orange, NJ, music professor and organist at Montclair State University.

**MRS. DORIS HOLLOWAY** of Newark, NJ, a teacher in Newark School System and member of First Mt. Zion Baptist Church.

**MR. JAMES MILES**, owner of New 20 Grand Lounge, in Newark for 17 years.

**MR. CLARENCE BLONDIE DANIELS**, 69, retired Newark Detective, lived in East Orange, NJ.

**MR. JAMES PLENTON JR.**, 81, U.S. Airlines Executive, formerly of Westfield, NJ.

**MR. ALFRED SNAG JACKSON**, of Newark, NJ.

**MR. MILTON SNEED**, formerly worked with Newark Sanitation Division.

**MRS. ARMAZA B. MATHIS** of East Orange and Newark. Milliner, NAACP member and star of Fashion and Accessory Designers.

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# THE WEDDING OF THE YEAR



Beginning on November 16, 1994 with a "high-flying" request for her hand in marriage in the middle of an airplane aisle, 42,000 feet in the air over Akron, Ohio, Brenda Hoffer, to the delight of Milton Curtis Battle, his parents, the passengers and crew, said... "yes!" Thus began the journey which culminated in the wedding of the year.

The bride who is a Substance Awareness Coordinator in the Newark Public Schools and the groom a tri-state business owner, joined together in holy matrimony on Friday, May 31, 1996 at 6:00 p.m. at Gethseme Baptist Church, Newark, NJ, with the witnessing of over 300 people as they exchanged vows in a dual African and traditional wedding ceremony. The couple jumped the broom. Using the *Twelve Symbols of Life* they joined together two families, two sets of relatives and two friends.

Then, on Sunday, June 22, joined family and friends in the spirit of the ancestors at their Karamu (Swahili for reception) held at the Grand Mediterranean

Manor in Newark, NJ. over three hundred people were in attendance.

Upon entering the reception, wedding guests were greeted by the Mistress of Ceremony Bettie Martin and directed to their respective seating to view the video of the wedding on two giant T.V. screens, produced and directed by Metro World Promotions and Floyd Bostic & Co. After the video the wedding party entered the reception led by the Matron of Honor Laverne Hoffer, Best Man Demond Cowins-Battle (the groom's son), brother of the bride Martin Hoffer and the respective parents of the bride and groom, Helen Hoffer, William E. Battle Sr. and Mattie W. Battle.

The bride and groom entered and danced to the song "Forever Mine" played by the Strategy Band led by John Ransome. On the sidelines the flower girls, Siddegaah Hoffer and Chantel Gaston, jumped up and down with happiness while the ushers, Terrell Hoffer and Shaqinah Hoffer, observed the en-

tire event from the sidelines. After the dance, Martin Hoffer and Demond Cowins-Battle toasted the bride and groom and wished them continued happiness and life together.

*Surprise, surprise* (unbeknownst to the groom), Bettie Martin announced a "last call" to anyone in attendance to turn in their keys to Milton's bachelor's pad because he was now a married man! Milton was surprised to see all the women come forth to the turn in keys... including Brenda's best friend, Olive Harvey, who "cried" all the way as she slowly moved through the crowd to throw the keys at Milton. The guests had a good laugh at this little put on.

This wedding of the year had all the frills of a Broadway opening night...a sumptuous buffet featuring every thing from fruit to lobster with a continuous open bar and flowing champagne fountain. Family and friends danced the night away and toasted the "true love" of Milton and Brenda Battle. Congratulations!

(201)

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THE BLACK SOCIAL REVOLUTION****PREAMBLE**

We African-Americans are a proud, valiant and loyal people. In answer to the Newt Gingrichs and Phil Grammas of America: "We do not want hand-outs if we can get jobs - however, we must exist."

This country has risen to its great heights in part because of the blood, sweat, tears and sacrifices of our forefathers who believed that the promise of life, liberty, justice and the pursuit of happiness would be lived out to affect their future generations.

Billions of American dollars are doled out each year to failing corporations and industries here at home and to foreign nations in poverty. America has a failure and poverty problem within its own boundaries in the inner cities. The present administrations call for less government should apply to corporations as well as to private citizens.

In retrospect perhaps we should thank Messrs. Gingrich and Gramm for their clarion "wake-up" to black America. As sleeping giants we have arisen from our slumber and will take charge of our destiny.

**The Black Social Revolution is on!!****THE BLACK SOCIAL REVOLUTION  
CREED**

I WAS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD. THEREFORE I AM SOMEBODY. I WILL ALWAYS HOLD MYSELF IN HIGH SELF-ESTEEM. TO THIS END I SOLEMNLY AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

1. I Pledge to respect the value of life.
2. I will not engage in substance abuse which includes drugs, alcohol and tobacco products.
3. I will practice sexual abstinence until marriage.
4. I will exercise the virtues of compassion and patience in all situations. I am not afraid. I will face challenges because I am a person of courage as shown by my survival.
5. I regard hate as an evil. I will not stoop so low as to allow hate to lower my self-esteem.
6. I regard my race as a family and other races as an extension of the family. I will not engage in acts which reflect negatively on my people.
7. I will judge people by their deeds and content of their character and not their race, creed or color.
8. I will challenge the media and other situations which portray acts, music and entertainment which are sensual and degrading to my race and do not meet the high moral standards to which I aspire, for I am being substance and purpose.
9. I will always be faithful and loyal to my family and community.
10. I will maintain a work ethic, always being industrious and trying to achieve, accepting help only when necessary.
11. In the tradition of my faith-culture, I will always give high respect to the elderly, brotherhood and sisterhood, children are to be cared for and loved.
12. I will maintain my integrity and personhood at all times, though I may be devoid of material goods because of circumstances beyond my control.
13. I will always exercise my constitutional right to vote and diligently carry out this duty as an American citizen. I will not accept second class citizenship.
14. I am proud of my blackness and my African-American heritage.



# POLLY TICKS

by Eddy Guilbert

**NEWARK, NJ** – Voters are asking who speaks for them in all of the problems that have surfaced? The unemployed say their only salvation is the politicians. The people who are homeless or on welfare are asking the same questions. Who speaks for us? Remember when we had the civic associations that made it their business to have some place for people to at least cast their grievances? Some people feel that the politicians they elect do not respond to their needs. This feeling is not only in Newark, but in East Orange, Irvington, Orange and the entire county. When they read the daily papers, listen to the radio, watch T.V. they say they've been abandoned to whatever happens. Query: when are the pols going to wake up and begin to show some leadership to the folks? ... Thomas V. Henderson, a lifelong resident of Orange, NJ says he felt that way when the former mayor was in office, but now that Mayor Hackett has taken over he feels it's a brand new day. Mr. Henderson graduated from Orange High School where he was an All-State football player, an A.A.U. swimmer and a member of the baseball track teams. He has a B.A.

from Upsala College in East Orange, where he was a member of its track team, a Division III All-American football player (and a member of the 4-H backfield), and was named to the Upsala College Hall of Fame.

**EAST ORANGE, NJ** – People are talking about the Police Department fight, Mayor Cardell Cooper and City Council ... One thing about the whole affair that appears in the daily press it is not one sided it's strictly interracial. It's all about a Black Chief and words that they say were said that there would *"never be a white chief of police as long as I am mayor."* These were words supposedly said by the present Mayor Cardell Cooper.

**IRVINGTON, NJ** – Wayne Smith the newly elected councilman promised to give our column an interview about all the news that fits to print about his city. ... Walter Jacobs, a new political face is also pushing into Polly Ticks ... who are the "Concerned Black Republicans," of New Jersey? And how many went to the big show in San Diego? See you next issue!

## Quote of the Week:

"...every citizen should protect their future by **registering to VOTE** in this upcoming November election..."

MAYOR SHARPE JAMES

## remember when...

...**The Honorable Judge Hazelwood** ran for City Council and received 32,000 votes under the Councilmatic form of Government ...**Ms. Ann West** of East Orange was considered the best Lindy Hop partner at New York's dance ballrooms ...**Mr. Hal Mitchell** of Newark was the best trumpet player and arranger around ...**Mr. Henry Graham** owned Graham Auditorium at 188 Belmont Ave., (now Irvington Turner Boulevard)...**the 3rd Ward Republicans** were led by Prosper Brewer and Tousant Ware ...**Mr. Google Eyes** a singer from New Orleans married a girl from Newark ...**The Owl Club** was owned by Mrs. James Juny Fultz on Quitman Street...**Mrs. Audrey West** was in County Welfare ...**Mr. Bobby Peale** married Nat King Cole's sister-in-law...**Cab Calloway** played at the Meadowbrook and not many of us attended...**Magnificent Wacks** once was one of the most popular social club of the day and...**Kitty Taylor** one of the top social workers for Senior Citizens in Newark, NJ?

## A PHOTO FLASHBACK!



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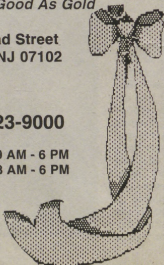
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## POST CARDS from Africa

by Elizabeth Branson

Ever dream of going to Africa? I did and it was one of the most wonderful and unforgettable experiences of my life. From the moment I depanned to the faint beat of drums it was a visual fantasy and a true dream come true. (See photos on page 7.) While waiting for my luggage I was greeted with "welcome home." Outside the airport were several colorfully dressed dancers, drummers and a ten foot man on stilts who danced nimbly to the syncopated beat of the drums. There were dancers and drummers all around making it difficult to decide who to give my attention to. I stayed and enjoyed the street festival as long as I could.

While boarding the bus to the hotel I thought to myself, what a beautiful country and what beautiful people. Fed by the negative stereotypes of African culture I was surprised to find an absolutely impressive complex. The hotel, a five-star Meridian was everything one could want, air-conditioned, modern and beautifully decorated.

There were many wonderful experiences I had while in Africa but two of the most memorable were the trip to Goree Island and the Pink Lake. Goree Island was a major site of slave trafficking. Goree Island is the last view of Africa our ancestors saw before being cargoed to America. The structure where slaves were shackled still stands and has been meticulously cared for over the years. Very beautiful in color and architecture made it difficult to believe it was the place of such atrocities. This was an emotional and memorable tour.

Equally impressive was the Pink Lake. A warm, salty lake that turns from pink to purple according to the position of the sun. It is a magical stretch of water on which everything floats - including people due to the density of the water. All around the lake were huge mounds of mined salt that would later be sold in the market.

The weather in February was beautiful. During the day it was 80-90° and at night a comfortable 60°.

I learned from his-story that Europeans sent to America their social outcast, the murders and the criminals. Conversely the slaves that were sent from Africa were the very best Africa had to offer. They took from the tribes that consisted of excellent runners, strong warriors, and gifted craftsmen. It is no surprise that America beholds some of the most outstanding athletes, skilled artisans, and natural leaders of African decent. All offspring of our great ancestors.

I cannot say enough wonderful things about my trip to Africa, the food was good, the shopping great, the people very warm and hospitable. If this has been a dream of yours I can help you make it a reality. The Safari Sisters are promoting a trip to West Africa in February 1997. A deposit of \$200.00 by October 15th will reserve your place to Africa.

You may also find out more about Africa by calling me, Elizabeth Branson at 201-762-4028. I feel that all people of African decent would benefit from a trip such as this for many years to come.

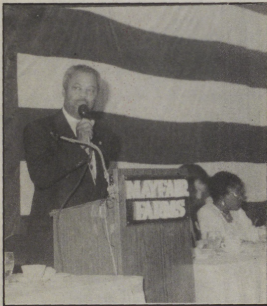


# ... THE OTHER POLITICS



Shown at a recent Democratic Fundraiser in West Orange are (L-R): Calvin D. West, Aide to Mayor Shape James and former Newark Councilman-at-Large, receiving his Hall of Fame Award from Rev. Levin West of Grace Reformed Baptist Church, Newark.

Addressing the 1,000 Essex County Democrats is Congressman Donald M. Payne.

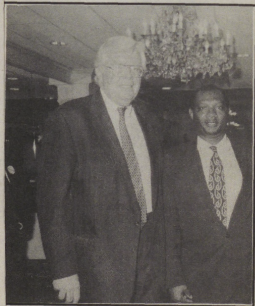


ALL SMILES. (L-R) Orange Mayor Cooper, Sheila Y. Turner, Mc Clend Recording Secretary, Essex County Democratic Committee, Mayor Mims Haddad of Orange.



# AL GET-TOGETHER

**AFRICAN-AMERICAN CLERGY.** Shown (L-R) Thomas P. Giblin, Essex County Democratic Chairman, and Rev. Reginald Jackson of St. Matthew's A.M.E. Church, Orange.



## Special to the Black Mirror News



**WEST ORANGE, N.J.** Send all your get well cards to our own Connie Woodruff who has been ill over the last three weeks.

Send messages to Black Mirror News, 50 Park Place, Newark, NJ 07102



**NEW FACES.** Thomas P. Giblin, Essex County Democratic Chairman, East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper, Blonnie R. Watson of Newark, Coomunity Activist and Candidate for Freeholder-at-Large, and Robert Cottingham, newly appointed Aide to Congressman Donald M. Payne.

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# AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS AFTER HOURS

**Hair to Hair** at 11 Hill Street, Newark, NJ has the prettiest customers in the world (*no kidding!*) stopping in to catch the Summer Specials. Janice Williams is a most gracious owner and gives excellent service – smiles ... **The New Friends of Symphony Hall** really welcomed **Arthur Thomas** into his new manager's spot at Symphony Hall ... Do you need legal assistance? Well, be sure to call **Robert DeGroot, Esq.**, attorney at law, he's eminently qualified whether you need help in New Jersey or New York ... **Kevin Foushee** one of the top auto leasing experts currently located at 337 E. 64th Street, New York, is the talk of the young set ... 201-622-7770 is the telephone number of the new "**Crystal Clear Images**" with the staff of Tawana R. Brinson, Safya Nelson, Kim Taylor, Ariell Spriggs and Kenneta Jones. Orchids to this new young business ... **R'mani's Catering** is on the rise too – smiles ... Kenya Mathews of "**Boogies**" has heads turning, a smart woman manager at the East Orange posh spot – smiles ... Brooklyn's **Vivian Harding** one of the travel masters not seen around New Jersey lately – smiles ... **George Thomas** in Florida visiting his family ... **Joseph Byrd** and his wife just returned

from a southern family reunion – smiles ... Sorry to hear of the passing of **Mrs. Bernice Bass** mom. Who can forget it was the likes of Mrs. Bass who helped change the black vote into our beginning as mayor and councilmatic power ... **Larry O'Neal** married and living in Turkey the last five years. He's a smash hit success, traveling a circuit that takes him into Switzerland, Germany and France. Larry's stepdaughter will be going to school in New Jersey in the Fall ... **Mrs. Steward** (of restaurant fame) wearing green and driving her green Lexus through the Oranges – smiles ... **Thomas L. Dove** retired from the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission two weeks ago. Among the many people present at his retirement party was Diane Epsaw, Elaine Penion, Carrado Guante EEOC Director, Hilton Davis, Gene Thompson and many other officials of the federal government ... Send get well cards to **Dean Jones**, NHA, master printer ... Who's the **CWITS Association**? They do give great affairs ... There's a new singer you should hear: **Barbara Allen** – smiles ... **Buddy Myles** the guest of **Eric Lewis**. **Burt Moore** and his family from Ohio visiting Newark, NJ again... Have you ever seen the **Brown Sisters**? ... **The New Day Associates Inc.** have a standing motto you must "Dress To Impress" so says President **John J. Blasingame**. The affairs they give are always at the Marriott Hotel Newark International Airport ... Labor man **Jerry Owens** back in our summer nights, wearing a smart dress shirt with white cuffs and collar, a tinted grey body ... Orchids to **Theresa Terri Meehan** on her marriage to **Michael Manford**. Great ! ... Hey, did you check out the "**Hound Dog Tipster**" (page 15) last month? It was on the \$\$\$\$\$, hmm ... Best dressed Woman of the Week was **Mrs. Emma Lucas** – smiles.

Who are the  
The Best Dressed  
People of All?  
Men & Women



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Note: This is only a popularity contest. Send coupons to:

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# SOCIAL CALENDAR

THE SPIRIT OF MARDI GRAS CRUISE  
UP THE HUDSON, SEPTEMBER 7th.  
Leslie Hook Greene, 201-332-0110

JAZZ SHOW at the Robert Treat  
Travelodge every Thursday at 6:00 pm  
until?

JAZZ SHOW at the Plaza Village in  
front of City Hall in East Orange. The  
Mighty Sparrow 6:00 p.m. Aug. 13th.

BOGIES, 527 William Street, East Or-  
ange, NJ. NBA Good-Bye / Good Luck,  
Friday Aug. 9th, 9 pm until? Hosted  
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# OLYMPIC REPORT

## On the ground in Hotlanta

by M. Braxton

### The scene for everyday folks...

was hot, hot, hot! Yes a real down-home celebration took place at the 26th Summer Olympic Games. Hearty, enthusiastic folk from 197 countries gathered together to compete in the games...and "party down". Atlanta told the world "ya'll come" and they did. A mix of ages and races felt good, like the atmosphere Atlanta likes to brag about.



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Many visitors headed to the pilgrimage down Auburn Avenue the site of the **King Center** to pay their respect. Visitors from Japan, the West

Indies, France, Slovenia and Slovakia were just some of the countries represented by their citizens.

Nightlife offered the opportunity to 'see and be seen' at places like downtown at the Underground and out in the Buckhead area.

Atlanta offered plenty of places for real people to party

and mingle with the likes of actor **Louis Gosset**, who said he couldn't wait to take up **Mayor Bill Campbell's** invitation to attend the games, or **Laurence Fishburne** and **Stephen Baldwin** who premiered their movie 'Fled' (filmed on location in Atlanta) during the Olympics.

Good o' block parties in the **Buckhead** area along with places like **Planet Hollywood**, **Hard Rock Cafe**, **Dan Aykroyd's House of Blues** and other bars and clubs attracted overflow crowds that had traffic backed up a couple of blocks in all directions.

Downtown at the **Underground** an out-to-party crowd made for a friendly atmosphere. Many took advantage of the extended hours for the Olympics - 8 a.m. to 3 a.m. - to relax and kick back. Everyone was dressed casually; security was comfortable, and people friendly.

**Fat Tuesday** was a spot that attracted a mainly African American singles crowd.

"You come here to marinate, to discuss the days events," said one participant.

Up one level in the retail area at **Johnny Rockets'**



Photo by LAURA NOEL / Special

**Fat Tuesday:** The Underground nightspot - described by one patron as a place "to marinate" - draws (from left) Lisa Johnson, Latisha Hayes and Steffany Watkins.

'50s-style diner, the crowd was munching on burgers and kicking back.

**Dante's Down the Hatch**, known for jazz and fondue, was almost full. A jazz combo sang and played.

Back out in the Buckhead area someone remarked, "It's almost Beale Street," referring to the Memphis street famous for blues.

All in all, it was fun - watching people stroll by, stopping to listen to street music, block after block, people elbow-to-elbow and always friendly. Yes, the Games went on just fine, thank you.

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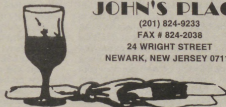
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## Ronald Rice

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& New Jersey State Senator  
**733-3794**





If you don't believe the Shadow Knows what you are doing, check this out... Last week I passed through the area of South Harrison St. near Central Avenue and I saw a young lady about nineteen getting out of the Buick LaSabe being driven by a man who looked old enough to be her father's grandfather and he slipped her some money. Honey, if you think nobody knows what you are doing, think again. And to that young stud on Lyons Ave. who thinks that making babies is some kind of sport, look out, even Pres. Clinton is looking for you for some child support, because now the mother has to name the baby's father before she can collect her assistance check and if it's a choice for her between your name and her name on the check, you will be hung out to dry. So you'd better take your gold chains and your leased Lexus, put them away and find you a steady job - you are going to need it soon. And by the way Mickey D's is always hiring.

Here's a tip to the young brothers who are stealing cars, before you take somebody's car for your own personal pleasure, go to driving school first and learn how to drive when you are being chased by the police. Every time you are being pursued by the cops, you always end up plowing into a tree, another car or a telephone pole. The Shadow can't figure out how you think that is fun, and I notice that the men I see in wheelchairs these days are getting younger and younger. So the moral is - if you don't stop stealing four wheels, you'll end up with two wheels and someone pushing you around town, and I have never seen anyone doing doughnuts in a wheelchair.

To the young lady who has the platinum weave and lives on Elizabeth Ave. near Weequahic Park, you know who I'm talking about, the one who loves to wear short skirts? Well, miss, if your skirts get any shorter, you are going to have to have another head of hair to get done, and every time you bend over, your roots show, but maybe you like it like that...

The Shadow has observed that a lot of young men are riding around town in fancy cars day and night with no women. What's the matter, don't you like girls anymore? Is this some sort of new male bonding?...

Everyday when I come off Exit #143 southbound on the parkway, just before Springfield Ave. there is always someone body there with a can begging money

for some preacher, some of them are little children, these dedicated church goers work hard for the good Reverend in all kinds of weather and at the risk of being run over by some fool driving too fast and too messed up to see them in time. The Shadow sees these same people walking to church on Sunday or taking the New Jersey Transit limo, but the preacher drives up to church with his Armani suit and a shiny brand new Mercedes or Caddy. I say if you're going to get out in the street and shake a can, become a partner with Rev. keep half of the money and save up to buy yourself some transportation...

To "Miss, I know I'm fine," who is always seen on the club scene with those extra long fingernails, your hands look like trees with five branches striking out, you look ridiculous. The Shadow would really like to know how you make out when you go to the bathroom for No. #2? I bet when somebody tells you to go scratch your a... you can say "been there, done that"...

That old man on Lincoln Ave. in Orange makes me sick, he's always bragging about how much he loves his wife and family and how he would do anything for them. Why don't you bring that young girl who you take to the motel on Ball St., in Irvington on your night out (with the boys), to your house one morning and introduce her to the family. I bet instead of Blue Cross, you'll need Red Cross, by the time your wife finishes using your head for basketball practice. You'll be a disaster...

The Shadow is very upset over the way certain mothers are letting the 'hood raise their children. You see them out in the streets at three o'clock in the morning getting into trouble. Since your children are running wild, the Shadow suggests that you stop watching "All My Children" on T.V. and start watching your own. Real life ain't no soap opera...

To all of the young brothers whose new address is lock bag, county or state prison - those who can no longer be on the scene, can't go to the clubs, can't see or hold their women or their kids, can't get to the drugs they want, can't watch the T.V. shows they like or go to a movie - get a Dunkin' doughnut or Burger King, can't go to the beach or to a family cookout, can't go for a nice afternoon drive in the countryside, can't hang out on the corner with the posse, can't do all or any of the things that you used to take for granted.

To all of you who are locked up as a menace to society, believe me, we feel your pain... and I hope you felt our pain when you robbed us on the street to buy drugs, when you hijacked our cars for a joy ride, when you stole our cars from the parking lots, when you took your guns and did a drive-by shooting, killing and injuring innocent people who had nothing to do with your drug deals that went bad, when you thought that holding a gun in your hand was a license to kill. I hope you felt our pain, and when you get out of the slammer, you will have more respect for human life and the feelings of other people...

The Shadow saw an interesting sight the other day, I saw two boys about 14 years old on a bicycle peddling across the lot of the ShopRite in East Orange - nothing unusual about that, right? Wrong. The passenger on the bike was holding a conversation on a cellular phone. He should have been using that money for a new pair of sneakers, the ones he had on had holes in them...

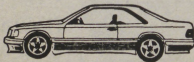
The Shadow saw a very large woman going into a popular night club in Orange the other night, she gave new meaning to the words, STR-E-E-TCH PANTS, she looked like an Italian sausage that had been left in a microwave too long - which only proves three into two can't go...

Here's a tip to the Brother who lives in the projects on Prince Street in Newark and has been having trouble making the payments on that white Lexus with the gold trim, better start checking out the price of those roller blades 'cause you'll be needing them soon to get around town to take care of your business. The lady who has been making your payments for you told her girlfriend she's not in your corner anymore, since you dished her big time last week when someone (not me) saw you with that other girl in the front seat. For shame on you!

Well, till next time, don't forget keep alert, look over your shoulder all of the time, because The Shadow is watching you and I will tell it all. (Chao)

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